

# The Sun

WILLIAM M. LAFAN.

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## Mother Jones May Have a Chance.

There seems to be reason for believing that Mother Jones will, after all, be received at Oyster Bay. The discussions of the Secret Service men are to be decided from and the representative of the striking textile workers of Philadelphia may have an opportunity of laying their grievances before the President.

And why not? The President is the last man to permit a sense of personal embarrassment to sway him from the fixed path of what he conceives to be right. Mrs. Jones says she is the accredited representative of thirty-five thousand unemployed weavers. The Mayor of Philadelphia certifies that they are honest and God-fearing citizens and that since they went out on strike they have committed no murders, have beaten or mutilated none, have blown up nothing with dynamite, but, on the contrary, have obeyed the laws and waited peacefully for the reintegration of what they think is their due.

If the President could receive at the White House the representatives of lawlessness, bloodshed, anarchy and outrage in Pennsylvania, the men under whose influence that State was disgraced, if he could receive them and compel them to meet before the President, why not receive Mother Jones? She is a respectable woman. She is sent by people who want a grievance, real or fancied, redressed and who wait patiently for help and guidance. She does not represent three hundred thousand votes in a great and important State, and it is true that if her comparatively small group of weavers vote they do so in Philadelphia, where votes do not count and where they are counted. Mr. Roosevelt will not make fish of Mother Jones and fowl of the Pennsylvania miners.

This practice of accepting receptions to the elements of disturbance and social upheaval, this welcoming to the White House of the representatives of social revolution, whether they come from Pennsylvania, or Montana, or Philadelphia, betokens a generous and a liberal mind, a heart beating with sympathy for the organized form of toil and that steadfast and resolute hostility to wealth and the occasions of affluence which have so endeared Mr. Roosevelt to the masses. It has its awkward side, it is true; and it somehow seems to depart from the spirit of the Constitution and that notion of the supremacy of the Written Law, which is perhaps growing obsolete. All the same, once embarked upon it must be persisted in and adhered to.

And that to the bitter end.

## Canada's Race Problem.

Whoever it may have been that first discovered Canada, the Frenchman, JACQUES CARTIER, was the first to establish a definite and permanent foothold in that country. That was in 1534-5. In 1603 CHAMPLAIN followed CARTIER and extended the area of French possession. During the first quarter of the seventeenth century there began those quarrels between the French and the English settlers on the Western Continent the echoes of which have not even yet quite died away. The French held the mastery until the time of WOLFE's defeat of MONTCALEM at Quebec, and the signature, in 1763, of the Treaty of Paris, by which France ceded and guaranteed to his Britannic Majesty, in full right, "Canada with all its dependencies."

For a time the French population showed an enormous majority over the English. This was partly offset by the thousands of loyalist emigrants and refugees who left the American colonies and fled after the American Revolution. But this influx divided the Canadian area into two semi-hostile camps, the French of Lower Canada, and the English of Upper Canada, and it was not until the federation of 1867 that there was a clearly defined political coalition.

The points of friction which developed during that protracted period of racial, religious and political antagonism are not yet wholly obliterated. In the minds of thousands of the descendants of those early French settlers, the only Canadians are those of French extraction. To them "Canada for the Canadians" has not the meaning which it has for us. To them it is "Canada pour les Canadiens," and they are the *Canadiens*. Although of French blood, and although their language is that of France of earlier days, they are not French, and many will even resist it if one calls them Frenchmen. There is no loyalty to the land of their extraction. They are simply *Canadiens*, and although the life of the old habitants of the eastern provinces is fast yielding to the effects of modern life and modern institutions, enough remains to keep it distinct in its quaintness and picturesque. The old claimants, and will be for years to come, a factor of importance in the social and political life of Canada.

Its most serious effect is to cause some political confusion. It is an element which must be taken into every political consideration. That which may be called the French element constitutes about one-third of the present population. Its special preponderance appears in the Province of Quebec, which includes the city of Montreal as well as that of Quebec. Scores of thousands of French Ca-

nadians have crossed the border to increase the wage-earning classes in American mills and factories. Even thither they carry their clannishness with them. Some move westward and settle on the land in Ontario and Manitoba and become influential in the political life of those districts. In 1890 the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba established a system of strictly non-sectarian schools. The Roman Catholic minority, chiefly French, protested and carried the case to the Dominion Parliament. Six years of agitation followed, and the issue was admitted an important factor in the election of 1896. The matter was compromised in 1897 by an arrangement which provided religious teaching in the schools of the province for the French Catholics who desired it. The Pope issued an encyclical approving acceptance of this concession, although asserting its inadequacy and expressing a hope for a better arrangement later. Echoes of this have been heard within the last few weeks in the shape of talk of reopening the matter for political purposes at the coming provincial election.

The difficulty of assimilating this element into that which is now the major force in Canada, the sturdy English stock inculcated with American energy and progressiveness, is manifestly great. It contains no shadow of menace to the peace of the country, though it will long remain a disturbing factor in politics. It is diminishing through the greater increase of an English-speaking people with modern tendencies, and in time it will all disappear except as a purely local issue in the old land of the *habitant*. Even there it will be greatly modified.

## The Failure to Execute the Civil Service Law.

An official journal of the National Civil Service Reform League contains a reply to our recent inquiry respecting the real relation of failure in executing the civil service law, and the connecting link is thus described:

"There is no distinction in morals between the use of patronage for personal gain, and taking money out of the treasury, and so the one immorality was certain to be followed by the other."

Whether "personal gain" is there used in the sense of political success, or in the sense of getting lucky, is not perfectly obvious. If the latter is the intended meaning, then the similitude between it and pilfering from the treasury is quite plain. But, on the other hand, "personal gain" only implies the getting of an office, or the keeping of one already in possession, then the hypothesis of the connecting link is that a Federal officer, be he President or Congressman, who knowingly and intentionally uses official patronage only in order to obtain, or retain, an office, is no better than one who robs the treasury. That is a rather startling proposition in condemnation of much that goes on at Washington, but possibly a sound proposition in the realm of civil service ethics.

To one not acquainted with the Civil Service Law of 1883, it needs to be explained that there is "a classified service" which the President can, in his sole discretion, enlarge from time to time, to which none can be lawfully appointed excepting after a competitive examination. The law does not embrace laborers, or nominations to be confirmed by the Senate.

Of the entire civil list of Federal servants, there are now about 115,000, as estimated by *Good Government*, who are classified and must submit to competitive examination. In the one-half not thus in the civil service list, there are 70,000 fourth-class postmasters and 25,000 laborers. The postal service alone has 65,552 competitive positions, and of them 21,418 are city letter carriers and 15,000 are rural letter carriers.

The President, says *Good Government*, appoints 4,731 postmasters and 9,000 other officers, without Senate confirmation.

Mr. TILDEN used to say that an opposition to the party in power at Washington, must, in order to win at the ballot boxes, have on its side two-thirds of the voters when its Presidential nomination is announced, for the reason that the power of patronage will allow a very nearly one-sixth. Nobody can easily believe it to be so who realizes the power of 230,000 or 250,000 office-holders, the army of postmasters and the array of postal carriers.

The rural free delivery service was, for unexplained reasons, not classified by the President till Nov. 27, 1901. Up to that time, it had been packed with letter carriers appointed by the head of the Post Office without civil service examinations. The pressure for new places became at last so persistent, *Good Government* says, that even the Post Office officials at Washington asked for classification, but, meanwhile, those already furtively appointed in far-off towns, without examination, and in anticipation of the classification soon to come, were promoted to be clerks in Washington without civil service tests.

Another very amusing method of evading the Civil Service law has been the creation of a clerk by designating him, or her, as a "laborer," needing not to be competitively examined, and then paying him, or her, as a clerk.

More than 900 persons, insists *Good Government*, are thus illegally serving today in the Washington departments.

It is even intimated that some such contrivance is practised with upper household servants in the White House by carrying them on treasury pay rolls as day "laborers" in the public grounds or buildings.

The evasion of the requirement of the Civil Service law accomplished by appointing persons to unclassified post offices shortly before the classification, and transferring, after classification, to other offices and departments the persons so appointed, the effect of the combined appointments and transfers being to put unlawfully the persons designated into offices which should have been filled by open competitive examination, began, it is said, in 1897 and went on till quite recently.

But, conceding the semi-official explanation to be true, it does not explain the invasion of the postal service by Tweed and his associates, the Civil Service law, unless

it is shown that the peculators were those who, in evasion of the merit system, furtively crept into the post offices through an unfastened basement window.

The semi-official plea that "the scandals occurred in the Rural Free Delivery Division, which had been packed with favorites, outside the Civil Service act," that "no one of the officials whose integrity is questioned was appointed under the Civil Service act, but they were all appointed by methods repugnant to the act and which the act seeks to remedy," and that "no scandals have arisen in any part of the service where the act has been in full operation," is to be tested by inquiry into the reasons why the inculcated chiefs of divisions, officers of the Department of Justice, and two or three clerks in those divisions, were not put in the classified service if the "full operation" of the law of 1883 contemplated the classification. If the competitive test will surely insure the Government against breaches of trust by officials in order to gain filthy lucre, it should be applied throughout the entire civil list. But will it? Each man believes in his own watch. Who will supervise the civil service officials? The plan is defective! Nothing else than vigilant surveillance of subordinates by superior officers who are on the spot can faithfully execute the laws. The officials in the suspected post office bureaus are none in need of a "good" talking to "by the President than is the crew of the Sylph.

The semi-official explanation frankly confesses a failure to enforce the Civil Service legislation of 1883 according to the obvious intention of Congress, and plainly wishes to be taken as intimating that the Civil Service Commissioners have not been at fault.

The failure can but inspire genuine pity for the President.

His first executive office was that of Civil Service Commissioner, given to him by HARRISON in 1889. He held it during six years, until, in 1895, when he attempted an execution of the police laws of New York. It was after two years of that effort that he took hold in Washington of the affairs of the navy. As an independent New York Republican, and as an opponent of the Presidential aspirations of Mr. BLAINE, he was in New York active in measures of administrative reform, national, State and municipal. He advocated the civil service legislation of 1883, which was urged because its faithful enforcement would everywhere promote integrity and efficiency in the execution of all other laws. A confession of failure faithfully to execute and adequately to enlarge the area of competitive examinations, as each President has had the power and is bound to do, and the presence of such petty larceny devices as are now revealed, can but press all earnest and devoted friends of civil service reform down into the depths of the valley of humiliation.

The presumption that the President retains unchanged his devotion to, and confidence in, competitive examination as a test of fitness for all inferior executive officers, gives especial significance to semi-official confession of failure to execute such examination, as a lesson of stern admonition to those who urge a transfer to Washington of legislative and executive work which the framers of the Constitution left, and intended to leave, with the several States, which can be better done either by individuals, or by forty-five cooperating Legislatures and Governors, than by an overworked Congress and President.

The business of government at Washington, even under a rigid interpretation of the Constitution, has increased so tremendously within a century that no President could in these times faithfully execute, day by day, all the Federal laws, even if the earth were ten times as large as it is in making a revolution on its axis, and if he need not give a half, or three-quarters, of that day to eating, sleeping and requisite out-of-doors exercising.

The injudicious advocates of putting new labors on the Washington Government, of requiring it to exercise control of private capital devoted to exploiting our material resources, are, consciously or unconsciously, promoting the erection of new departments in that city which will in the end usurp a jurisdiction in our country like that of a French Ministry of the Interior.

If the President has broken down in the faithful execution of the civil service laws he sincerely advocated, believed in, and swore by, and has broken down simply because he had not the time needed to overcome the active opposition, or the inertia, or the venality of subordinates who would evade them, or were willing to countenance evasion by others, how can he hope to execute new and unnecessary laws?

The CORKMEN'S DAY OFF.

A reason assigned by one police captain for the unusually large number of excise arrests in his precinct has ethnological value. It is the Madison street precinct, which includes "Cork row," and in which the number of residents born in County Cork, Ireland, is proportionately greater than in any other district of town. Sunday was the day of the annual excursion of the Corkmen, an Irish church organization of a benevolent character, the amusements of the members of which are, on the annual excursion, largely of an athletic character. Many, if not most, of the saloonkeepers in the Madison street precinct are Corkmen, and while away on Sunday they throw the hammer, wrestle and test their powers in long runs, short dashes and middle course sprints. Their barkeepers, as the police captain explains, recognizing that the extreme of the law was the extreme of injustice, became careless, were indifferent about the delivery of sandwiches with drinks, served drinks to policemen, and were arrested.

To the Corkmen's picnic was due an unwonted interference with what are sometimes described as the "cosmopolitan habits of our people," against which the law of excise is alternately enforced or suspended. But one thing is evident. If the saloonkeepers of this neighborhood are Corkmen, their barkeepers are not, else they also would have attended the excursion—nothing could have prevented them—and consequently the saloons would have been

closed and the law observed. The barkeepers in the Madison street precinct, it is evident, come either from other countries or from other countries, and they have the mingled shrewdness and watchfulness which characterize Corkmen the world over.

It requires in the saloon business a man of much astuteness to steer clear of the shoals and pitfalls of excise law observation in New York, but after a day's athletic sport, with medals and prizes to testify to their prowess and proficiency, the returning Corkmen resumed the positions which the barkeepers had been compelled, by the strong arm of the law, to vacate, and we are not likely to hear of wholesale excise arrests in the Madison street precinct for a year at least—until the next excursion of the Corkmen.

## A Hopeless Sufferer.

At a Chicago picnic given for the purpose of "launching" the Hon. CARTER H. HARRISON's "boom" for the Democratic nomination for President, the Hon. WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN of Fairview Farm emitted a composition on "The Democratic Ideal." Some sentences of this composition seem to have been extracted from Mr. BRYAN's early literary and rhetorical exercises at Whipple Academy and Illinois College. For example:

"The ideal controls the life and gives it not only direction, but form and constancy."

"An ideal permanently pursued crystallizes into character and becomes a vital part of the individual."

In illustration of these original and ripe ideas, Mr. BRYAN proceeded to show that the Kansas City platform had become a vital part of him and should be the ideal of the Democratic party:

"No political principle is worth fighting for that is not worth suffering defeat for, and, as a matter of fact, one's devotion to principle must be measured by what he is willing to suffer in its behalf, not by the reward he is willing to accept for supporting it."

Mr. BRYAN wants the Democratic party to continue to suffer and to postpone success. That is his ideal; and there can be no objection to his suffering as long and as much as he pleases. His party has suffered enough and would enjoy a little success as a change. Mr. BRYAN keeps curiously young.

The abandonment of the Waterbury and McChesney race, to have been run yesterday at Brighton Beach, has keenly disappointed thousands of American sportsmen. They had set their hearts on seeing a match between these two great thoroughbreds, and the admirers of each were confident of a victory which would determine conclusively whether Waterbury or McChesney is the best four-year-old in this country.

In view of the statement of Dr. SHEPARD, the veterinary surgeon, we are forced to believe that the Western challenger actually met with a slight accident which rendered him unfit for the contest. It was nothing, however, in the doctor's report to indicate that the horse would not be himself again in a few days. Lameness arising from a bruise such as he seems to have received is usually a matter of trifling consequence which may be speedily alleviated with careful nursing. Mishaps similar to McChesney's cause races to "pull up lame" almost daily, and within a few days afterward they come out and win.

If McChesney is to meet Waterbury in a match race—which now seems improbable—it will have to be at Saratoga. For those who are eager to know which is the better horse there is at least this consolation: If McChesney starts in any one of the five big races at the Spa for which both of these champions are eligible, he will be forced to encounter Mr. HAGGIN's famous colt. It is to be hoped that no more stonies or pebbles will be thrown at McChesney's path until he has proved, on an Eastern track, whether or not he belongs in the same class as Waterbury.

There are eleven vacancies in the Signal Corps and nearly twice as many in the Ordnance Corps of the army which are to be filled by the regular officers of the Signal Corps in the next few months. It may be necessary to send officers to these corps without their consent, thus putting into practice a sort of conscription, not viewed with approval even when adopted. Congress, in providing for the detail staff system, omitted to substitute anything for the advantages which the permanent staff system offered to officers; the result is apparent in the depleted strength of the two corps subjected to the detail system, which technical knowledge is most required.

Application has been made to the Board of Aldermen for the amendment of the ordinance relating to street preaching. That ordinance now provides that only clergymen or ministers of religion are permitted to preach upon the streets or in other public places of the city. The proposed change gives this right also to any person who is responsible to, or is regularly associated with, a church, missionary association or missionary society in the town. A condition is that the applicant shall obtain written permission from the Mayor, the Chief of Police or the Aldermen. The reason assigned by the applicants, who represent many missionary societies, is that a "very large proportion of the inhabitants of New York profess no religion of any kind" and attend no church or mission, and the assumption seems that they are ready to attend open-air services if these are freely offered. One of the clauses in the proposed ordinance provides that it shall not be construed to prevent any minister or people of any Church, usually called Baptists, from assembling in proper places in New York to perform the rites of baptism according to the ceremony of that Church. It is also made an offence, under penalty of a fine of \$25, for any person to disturb, molest or interrupt the holding of an outdoor church or mission meeting.

We doubt if it is wise to seek to impugn the character of JOHN B. McDONALD as a candidate for the presidency, and to impugn him in the conduct of his business. McDONALD has done a vast amount of work in various parts of this country; he has behind him a long record of honorable achievement in great works of public utility, and it is doubtful if at this late day he will be found recreant to his reputation or undervalued by the confidence so implicitly reposed in him by all who have heretofore had dealings with him.

Declared.

"No, she says she has no confidence in her husband."

"No, she says she caught him telling the truth the other day."

## THE CAGAYAN SULU ISLANDS.

No Question as to the Validity of the United States Government's Title.

WASHINGTON, July 22.—The occupation by the United States of the islands off the northeast coast of Borneo affords no reasonable grounds of complaint to the British Government. These islands belong to Spain prior to the recent war and her title to them had been fully acknowledged by Great Britain and Germany by the treaty of March 7, 1885.

Article I. of that treaty provides:

The Governments of Great Britain and Germany recognize the sovereignty of Spain over the places effectively occupied as well as over those places not yet occupied of the Archipelago of Sulu (Jolo), of which the limits are laid down in Article II.

Article II. defines these limits as follows:

The Archipelago of Sulu (Jolo) conformably to the definition contained in Article I. of the Treaty signed at Berlin, September 26, 1885, between the Spanish Government and the Sultan of Sulu (Jolo), comprise all the islands which are found between the western extremity of the island of Mindanao on the one side and the continent of Luzon and the island of Paragua on the other side, with the exception of those which are indicated in Article III. It is understood that the islands of Balabac and of Cagayan Jolo form part of the archipelago.

Article III. is as follows:

The Spanish Government renounces, as far as regards the British Government, all claims of sovereignty over the territories of the continent of Borneo, which belong, or which have belonged, to the past to the Sultan of Sulu (Jolo), and which comprise the neighboring islands of Balambangan, Banguey and Malawali, as well as all islands comprised within a zone of three maritime leagues from the coast and which form part of the territories administered by the company styled the "British North Borneo Company."

By this treaty Great Britain recognized the sovereignty of Spain over all the islands lying "between the western extremity of Mindanao and the island of Paragua on the other side," with the exception of the islands of Balambangan, Banguey and Malawali and such other islands as were "comprised within a zone of three maritime leagues from the coast."

All other islands as lay beyond the three-league zone were recognized as Spanish territory. These islands were beyond that zone, that have been recently visited by one of Admiral Evans's ships, and upon which the American flag has been raised and upon which tablets have been erected marking our ownership.

These islands were not included in the limits of the Philippines as defined in the original treaty of peace between the United States and Spain signed at Paris, but by a subsequent treaty signed at Washington Nov. 17, 1898, Spain conveyed them as well as others to the United States, in the following language:

Spain relinquishes to the United States all title and claim of title which she may have had at the time of the signing of the Treaty of Peace of Paris to any and all islands belonging to the Philippine Archipelago lying outside the lines described in Article III. of that treaty, and particularly to the islands of Cagayan, Balabac, and others, and agrees that all such islands shall be comprehended in the cession of the archipelago as fully as if they had been expressly included within those lines.

In consideration of this cession the United States paid Spain \$20,000, and thus became possessed of all the rights of Spain to the islands.

Subsequently the Sultan of Sulu, who had held some of or all of these islands under a sort of suzerainty to Spain, acknowledged the sovereignty of the United States and proclaimed his allegiance thereto. It would seem that the Sultan of Sulu, who is now a perfect as to Luzon or any of the larger islands of the Philippine group.

The islands recently taken possession of formally by Admiral Evans's orders are laid out upon the British Admiralty charts and also upon our own, and there appears to be no doubt that they are all without the three-league zone. Should any of them prove to be within it, our government would of course relinquish all claim to it.

It is said that two of these islands command the harbor of Sandakan, the capital of British North Borneo, but this is probably an exaggeration. They are within convenient steamship distance of the coast, and together a different thing from commanding it.

It is not to be supposed that the British Government will give itself any concern over the fact that this country has seen fit to raise its flag over these islands, and to take possession of them. They are of little or no value intrinsically, the largest of them being according to accounts little over a mile long. We have no idea of fortifying them, and they will probably remain unoccupied for years, unless we should ever have occasion to include in hostile demonstrations against Great Britain we would find it much easier to direct them across the Canadian border than to make any of the Philippine islands a base of hostile operations.

The over-zealous gentlemen who called attention to this matter in the House of Commons may compose their nerves and possess their souls in peace. We have no objection to designs against our British friends. We have only marked our own property, as we had a right to do, and whether we improve it or leave it in its original condition is nobody's business but our own.

J. S. TUCKER.

## The Normal College Again.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Some days ago you published a letter relating to the successful examinations for entrance into Normal College, and in it you mentioned an interesting item which has come to light since. It may be necessary to send officers to these corps without their consent, thus putting into practice a sort of conscription, not viewed with approval even when adopted. Congress, in providing for the detail staff system, omitted to substitute anything for the advantages which the permanent staff system offered to officers; the result is apparent in the depleted strength of the two corps subjected to the detail system, which technical knowledge is most required.

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THE CAUSE OF THE DECLINE.

Are Capital, Industry and Enterprise Suffering From the Roosevelt Policy?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: There is much discussion as to the cause of the heavy and almost continuous decline in stock market values which has been going on for six months past.

Various theories have been advanced, but to my mind not one of them fits the bill. Capital is a dethroned king. Not a heartless, cruel, wicked ruler, but a kingly king. Should this king ever be dethroned then indeed would chaos reign throughout the industrial, commercial and political world of America. Now American capital has met with a new foe in the unfriendly attitude of the Roosevelt Administration.

Under every Administration heretofore, corporate interests had reasons for believing the strong arm of the law might be invoked against red-handed rioters and minions of mobocracy. Capital also believed it was secure in its right to develop the industries and natural resources of our country, to use railroads and industrial combinations in order to effect certain economies and to establish greater net earning power, thereby creating a greater demand for labor at increased rates of pay.

Up to and including the autumn of 1902 capital was busy making prosperity, and all went well. This happy situation would have continued had not unfriendly interference by the Government with the rights of capital and business intervened to check all progress so that capital was forced to take a holiday and await developments.

Here, then, to my mind, is the chief cause of this unparalleled shrinkage in the market value of American investments—a fertile field transformed into a barren plain.

Because certain Socialistic and Populist writers and political speakers advocated and proclaimed the necessity of "outlawing the trusts," the machinery of the Legislature, Executive, and even the Judiciary branches of the Government were set in motion, and an excuse was found in the form of a defective fifteen-year-old statute, known as the Sherman Anti-Trust law, upon which to base an attack. The Government "sailed in." Then "what a fall was there, my countrymen," "then you and I and all of us fell down," while strenuous politics flourished over us.

I don't blame capital one bit for getting its back up. It is high time that Congress should be taught to legislate for business men and business interests, and not so much for vote-getting purposes. President Roosevelt possesses many admirable qualities, but he has made one grievous mistake. Perhaps he will discover it in time—it is not yet too late. He should learn now that capital, corporate interests and business concerns, as well as walking delegates and ward heeler, control votes. If the President does not discover his error and change his attitude and express the change in actions rather than words, I predict that he will have to struggle very hard to get the nomination a year hence, and if he does get it he will not be likely to have a walk-over at the polls.

This is a business men's country. Let us have a business men's Congress, and let the President call it together as quickly as possible to enact a currency reform measure and to modify existing "currency" laws to meet the present day needs and requirements, in order that confidence may again be restored and prosperity again be with us.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 20. J. B. S.

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Here, then, to my mind, is the chief cause of this unparalleled shrinkage in the market value of American investments—a fertile field transformed into a barren plain.

Because certain Socialistic and Populist writers and political speakers advocated and proclaimed the necessity of "outlawing the trusts," the machinery of the Legislature, Executive, and even the Judiciary branches of the Government were set in motion, and an excuse was found in the form of a defective fifteen-year-old statute, known as the Sherman Anti-Trust law, upon which to base an attack. The Government "sailed in." Then "what a fall was there, my countrymen," "then you and I and all of us fell down," while strenuous politics flourished over us.

I don't blame capital one bit for getting its back up. It is high time that Congress should be taught to legislate for business men and business interests, and not so much for vote-getting purposes. President Roosevelt possesses many admirable qualities, but he has made one grievous mistake. Perhaps he will discover it in time—it is not yet too late. He should learn now that capital, corporate interests and business concerns, as well as walking delegates and ward heeler, control votes. If the President does not discover his error and change his attitude and express the change in actions rather than words, I predict that he will have to struggle very hard to get the nomination a year hence, and if he does get it he will not be likely to have a walk-over at the polls.

This is a business men's country. Let us have a business men's Congress, and let the President call it together as quickly as possible to enact a currency reform measure and to modify existing "currency" laws to meet the present day needs and requirements, in order that confidence may again be restored and prosperity again be with us.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., July 20. J. B. S.

## Where the Color Line Helps the Negro.

THE PRINCIPLE OF THE SUN.—Sir: With its better fair in my estimate of the negro, I am inclined to the Black Belt, and I am Massachusetts born and reared, so I have had some opportunity of seeing both sides of the question.

It has seemed to me that the color makes a very effective dark background for his shining talents, when he has them, and one which his shrewdness (a racial trait, well known how to exploit).

For example, I am only one of many who have seen in Mr. Paul Laurence Dunbar's very creditable verses has not been greatly sharpened by the knowledge that he is, in a peculiar degree, the spokesman of his race? His color has helped him.

Similarly, in the beginning of Booker Washington's public career, curiosity to hear a eloquent negro led many people to his lectures, and the spell of his oratory, and thus his more solid virtues had a chance to be recognized.

Other negroes have been helped in the North, solely because of their color, and equally deserving white young men have had to work their own way through college.

Any negro who writes a scholarly volume—like the one by Prof. Du Bois—certainly of a great deal of newspaper discussion, and consequent increase in the sale of his work.

The color line works both ways. It helps the exceptional colored negro as much as it may keep down the ignorant and lazy and his place everywhere is at the bottom.

NEWARK, July 21. BENNETT NEAL LYON.